

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 51
By Hargett

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of David Gotten.

WHEREAS, it is with great sadness and a profound sense of loss that the members of this General Assembly and the citizens of our state learned of the death of David Gotten; and

WHEREAS, David Gotten was a distinguished citizen of the state of Tennessee who was very dedicated to his profession, community and family; and

WHEREAS, a native of Bartlett, Mr. Gotten was born in the house that now bears his family's name; the Gotten House, which houses the Bartlett Museum and is run by the Bartlett Historical Society, was built by Mr. Gotten's grandfather; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gotten enjoyed an extensive career in business and public service; he was the retired owner and operator of Gotten Cotton Gin and Mercantile Business and was an alderman for the city of Bartlett for more than 20 years, serving on the board during the 1960s and 1970s; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gotten generously contributed his time and talent to many civic enterprises, including service as a member and past worshipful master of Bartlett Masonic Lodge and worthy patron of the Bartlett chapter of Order of the Eastern Star; he was also a Scottish Rite Mason; a Knights Templar Mason; and a Shriner; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gotten also attended Mercer University in Macon, Georgia; and

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WHEREAS, David Gotten evinced his faith as a member of Bartlett Baptist Church, where he had served faithfully as a deacon and as church clerk; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Willie Dungan Gotten; their children, Katherine G. Elder, and Daniel Gotten; sister, Frances Davis; three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this legislative body pause in its deliberations to remember the bountiful life of this fine man; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor David Gotten, remembering with admiration his exemplary character and his many selfless contributions to his community and the people of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of David Gotten.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.